INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int onal Application No PCT/JP2004/010871

CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER PC 7 A01C1/06 C08F ÎPC 7 C08F226/02 C08K3/00 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 A01C C08F C08K Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category ° Relevant to claim No. X EP 0 473 881 A (SHOWA DENKO KK) 1-10 11 March 1992 (1992-03-11) cited in the application Y page 24, line 6 - line 50 1-10 Y US 5 849 320 A (CHEN YUGU ANG ET AL) 1-10 15 December 1998 (1998-12-15) column 6, line 16 - line 43 EP 1 078 563 A (NAT STARCH CHEM INVEST) Α 1-10 28 February 2001 (2001-02-28) example 9 Α WO 85/01736 A (AGRISORB PTY LTD) 1 - 1025 April 1985 (1985-04-25) page 5, line 10 - line 21 X Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: *T* later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the International "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docucitation or other special reason (as specified) document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed in the art. "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the International search Date of mailing of the international search report 21 October 2004 04/11/2004 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax (+31-70) 340-3016 Schmidt, H

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